

Bicycle Safety

Rights and Responsibilities

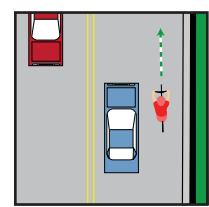
In general, bicyclists on public roadways have the same rights and responsibilities as automobile drivers and are subject to the same state laws and local ordinances. For everyone's safety observe these bicycling rules and safety tips.

Be Predictable

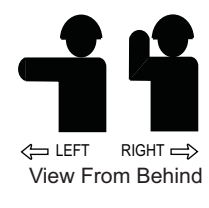
Operating a bicycle as a vehicle makes your movements more predictable to others and improves safety for everyone.

Use Lights at Night

State law requires a white light visible for 500 feet and a red reflector visible for 600 feet. A flashing red light in the rear is recommended. Bright and reflective clothing is recommended at all times of the day and night.



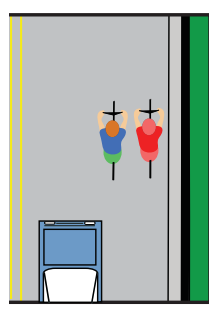
Ride with Traffic
Motorists are not looking for bicyclists riding on the wrong side of the road. State law requires that cyclists ride with the flow of traffic.



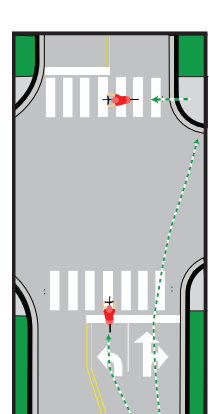
Signal Your Turns
Hand signals are required by state law to alert motorists, pedestrians and other bikers of your intentions.



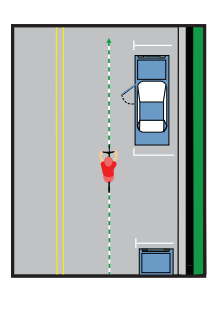
Yield to Pedestrians
When operating on a shared use trail or sidewalk, bicyclists must yield the right of way to pedestrians and shall give an audible signal before overtaking and passing a pedestrian.



Keep to the Right and Ride Only Two Abreast
Bicyclists should keep as far to the right as practicable, moving left to avoid hazards and to position themselves in the appropriate designated through or turn lanes. No more than two bicyclists should ride side by side in a public roadway.



Make Left Turns Safely
There are two ways to make a left turn. First, like a car: signal, move into the left-turn lane and then turn. Second, like a pedestrian: ride straight across the intersection to the far side crosswalk and wait for the pedestrian signal to cross the street in the crosswalk. When using the second method, care should be given when merging back with traffic.



Ride in a Straight Line and Avoid Car Doors
Parked cars opening doors can seriously injure cyclists. Keep at least an open car door distance away from parked cars and ride in a straight line where there are gaps between parked cars.

Wear a helmet

While not required by law, a properly fitted helmet is essential safety gear. Helmets should be worn such that they cover the forehead and are above the eyebrows. Helmets should fit snugly and not move around while riding.

Watch for cars pulling out

Always assume that motorists do not see you. Keep an eye out for cars pulling into traffic from parking spaces, driveways and intersecting streets.

Watch for Hazards

Watch out for sewer grates, slippery manhole covers, oil pavement, snow and ice. Cross railroad tracks at right angles. It is not necessary to use a bike lane or paved shoulders if hazards such as debris and poor pavement conditions make it unsafe.

Bells and Horns

It is recommended that a bicycle be equipped with a bell or other device capable of giving a signal audible from a distance of at least 100 feet.

Safety Accessories

Water bottles, tire repair kits, mirrors, locks, and first aid kits help make each trip safer and the cyclist more self-sufficient.

Tourism Resources

Vacation and accommodation information can be obtained from the following organizations. The same information can be obtained at Michigan's 13 Welcome Centers, located on major highways throughout Michigan.

Travel Michigan

www.michigan.org
888-78-GREAT (TDD: 800-722-8191)

Ann Arbor Convention & Visitors Bureau
www.annarbor.org
800-888-9487

Greater Lansing Convention & Visitors Bureau
www.lansing.org
888-252-6746

Hillsdale County Chamber of Commerce
www.hillsdalecountychamber.com
517-437-6401

Jackson County Convention & Visitors Bureau
www.visitjacksonmi.com
517-764-4440

Lenawee County Conference & Visitors Bureau
www.visitlenawee.com
800-536-2933

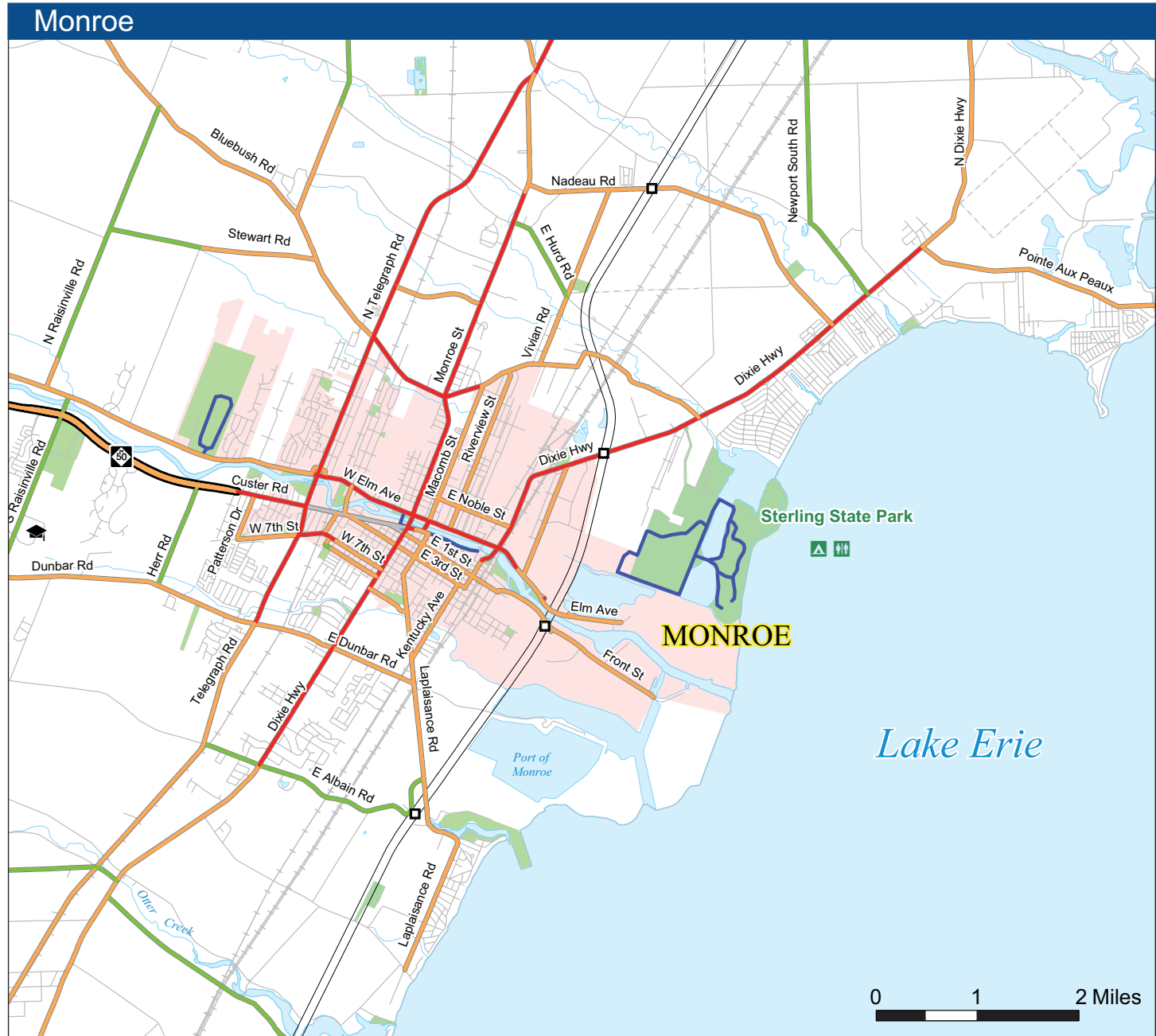
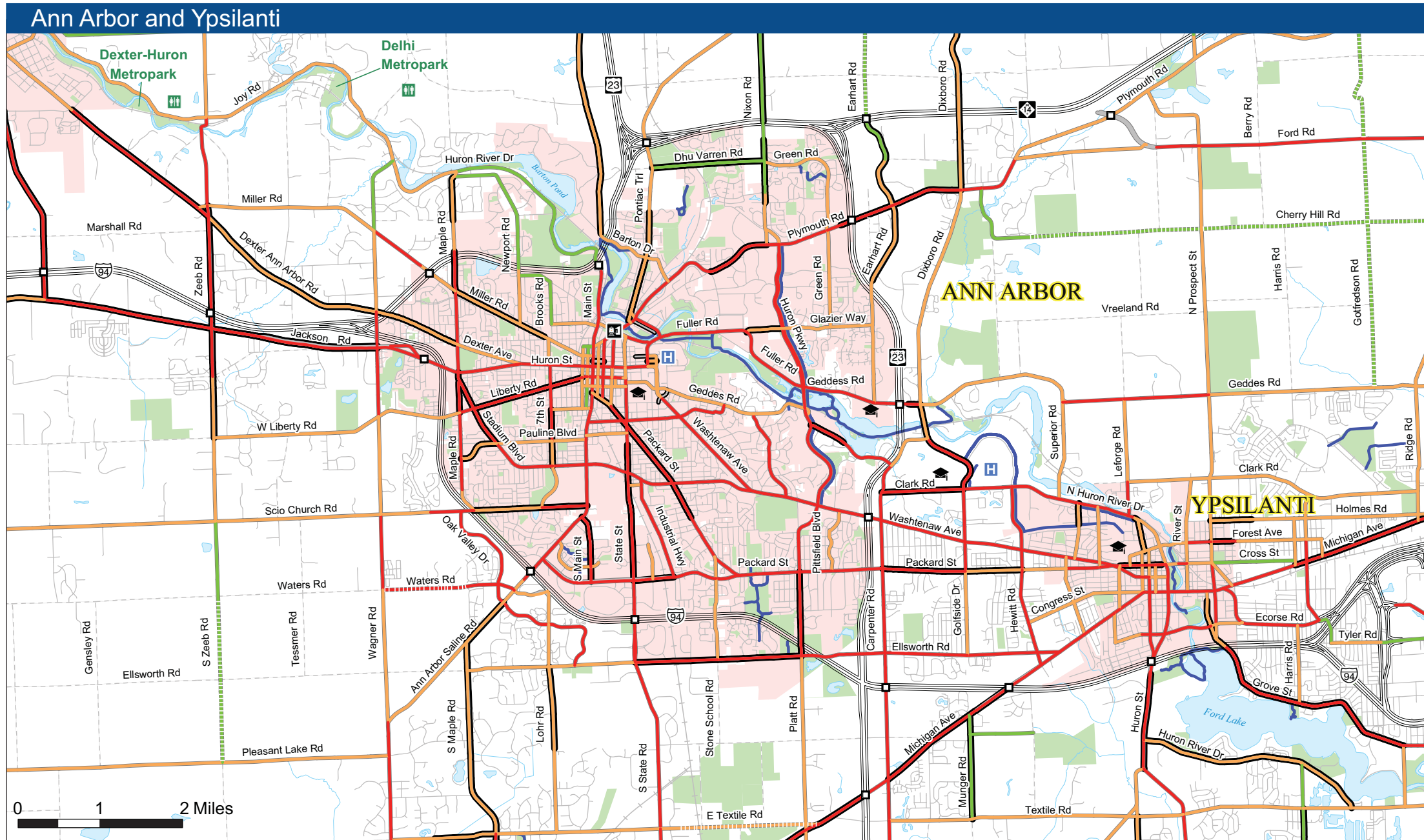
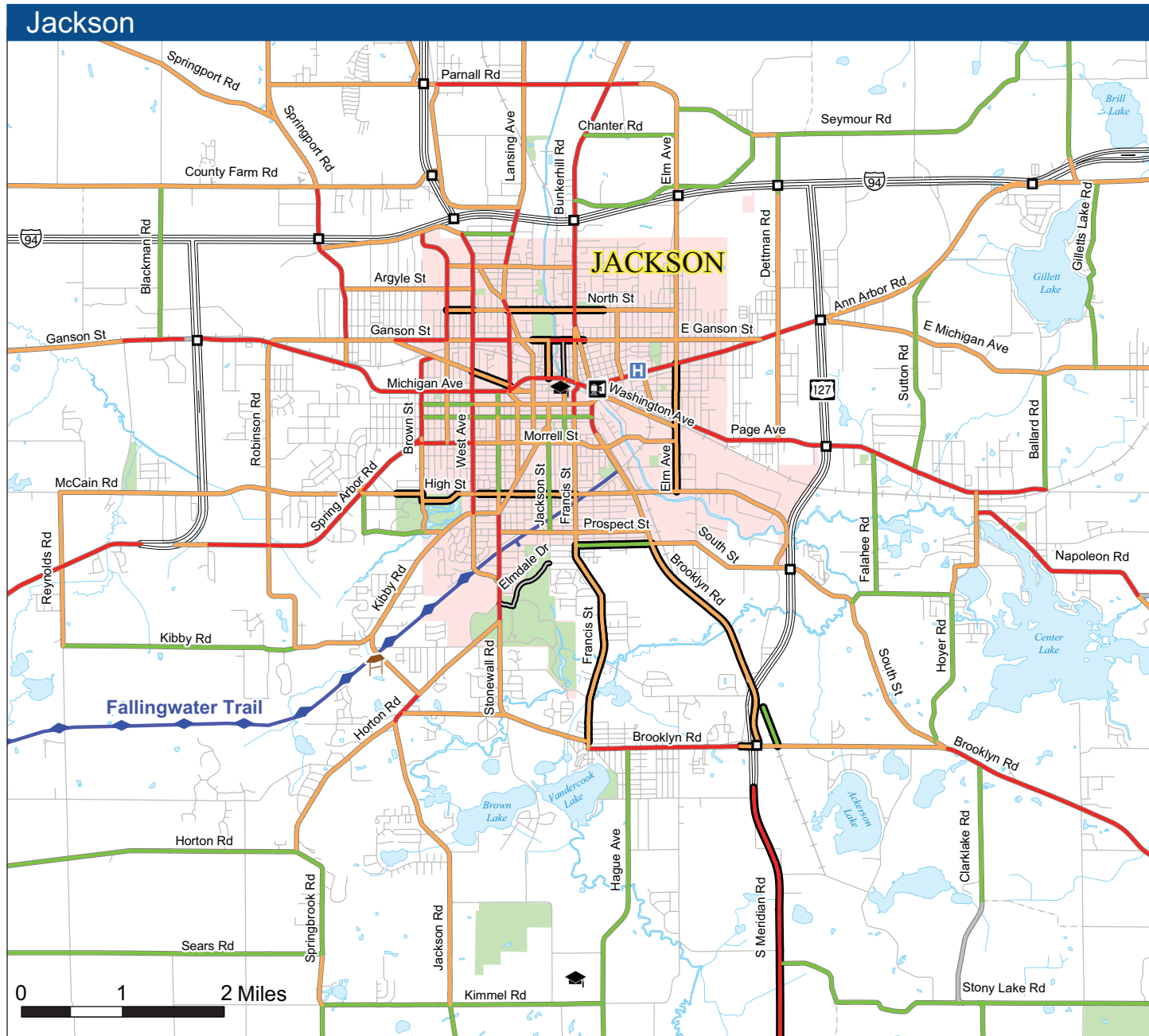
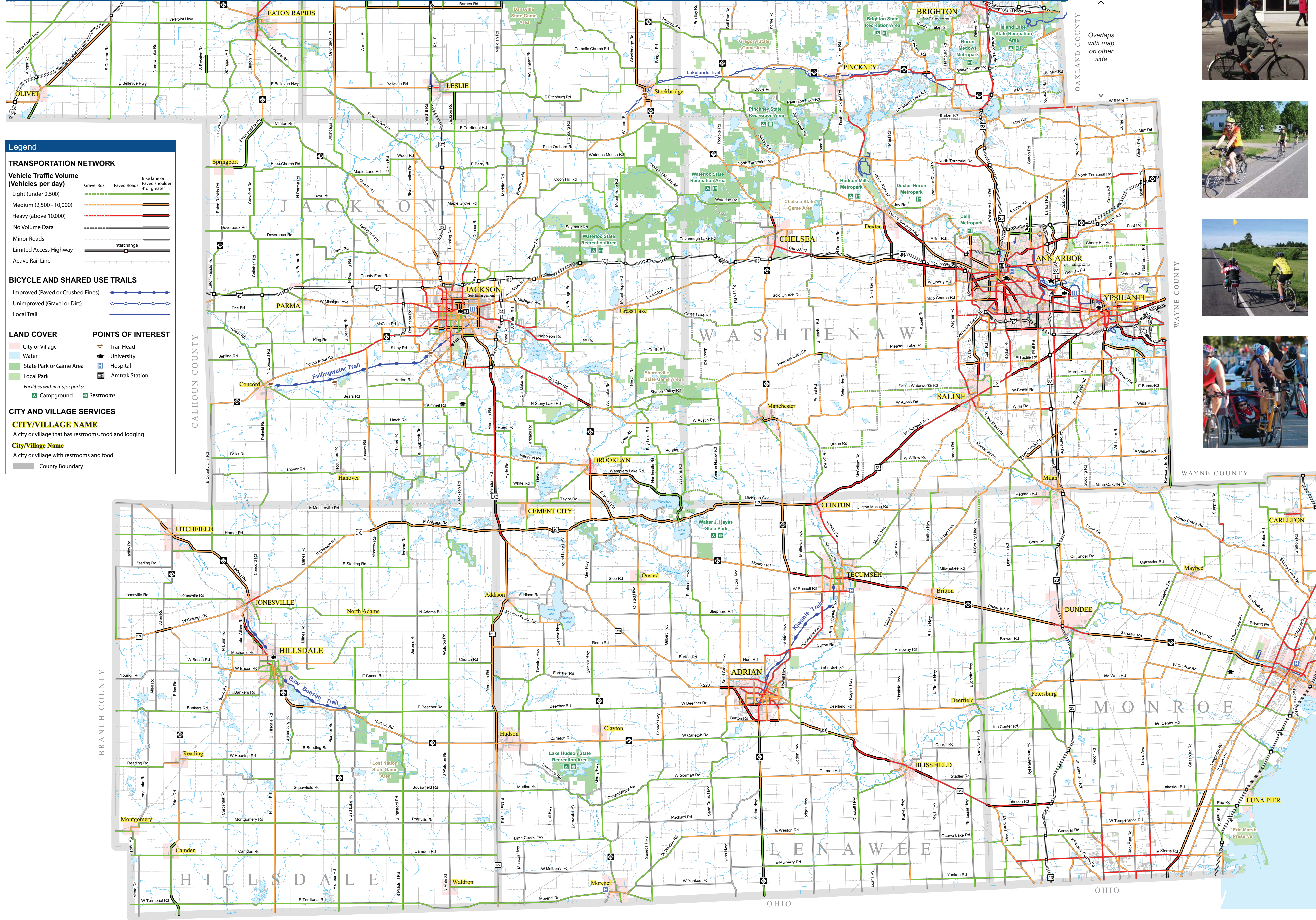
Livingston Convention & Visitors Bureau
www.lcwb.org
800-686-8474

Monroe County Convention & Visitors Bureau
www.monroecounty.com
734-567-1095

Ypsilanti Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
www.ypsilanti.org
734-463-4444



Hillsdale, Jackson, Lenawee, Monroe and Washtenaw Counties



Where to Ride

On the Road

Bicycles are permitted on all Michigan highways and roads, EXCEPT limited access freeways or unless otherwise posted. Bicycles are allowed on all road systems including those in State Forests, State Parks, National Forests, and National Parks. This map uses Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) as a measure of traffic volumes. These measurements are of total two-way traffic estimated on an average 24-hour period, and may vary by season or day of the week.

State Park Trails

Bicycles are currently allowed on trails in 31 State Parks and Recreation Areas. This includes six State Park Trails, which were developed with bicyclists in mind. Mountain bikes are allowed on trails only if they have been designated for bicycle use. Call the individual park or the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Parks Division, 517-373-9900 for maps of trails and further information.

State Forest Trails

Bicycles are allowed on most State Forest Trails. For more information and a map contact the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Forest Management Division, 517-373-1275.

State Game Areas

Bicycles are allowed on designated trails and areas in State Game Areas. Contact the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Division for more information, 517-373-1263.

Huron-Clinton Metroparks

Cyclists are allowed on paved hike-bike trails within the parks. There are no designated dirt mountain bike trails located in the Metroparks within the University Region. For further information contact the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, 800-477-2757 or online at www.metroparks.com.

Local Trails

Rules and regulations vary by each community and trail.

Lansing River Trail

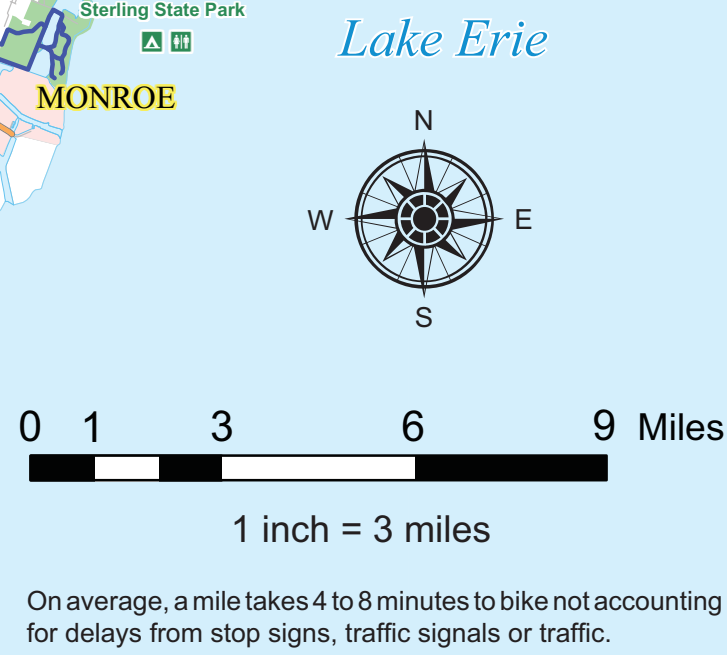
An 8 mile urban trailway that follows the banks of the Grand and Red Cedar rivers. The trail has reference markers every 1/4 mile and is relatively flat with both asphalt and wood boardwalk surfaces.

Falling Water Trail

A 10.5 mile paved trail within the old Michigan Central Railroad corridor connects the City of Jackson and Concord. The trail crosses Lime Lake on an old causeway.

Lakelands Trail

In southern Livingston County, the Lakelands Trail is a linear State Park approximately 13 miles long with both gravel and paved surfaces. It passes through wooded areas and rolling farmland. See the map inset on the other side.



Approximate distance traveled in 30 minutes
At a speed of 8 mph
At a speed of 15 mph

Map Information

Map produced by:

THE GREENWAY COLLABORATIVE, INC.
Greenway, Complete Streets and Sustainable Design since 1993

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MDOT
Michigan Department of Transportation

The Michigan Department of Transportation provides information and planning assistance for nonmotorized transportation facilities. For further information or for any comments, suggestions, or corrections regarding this map please contact:

MDOT Intermodal Policy Division
P.O. Box 30050, Lansing, MI 48909
Phone: 517-335-2918

For information on state road projects specific to this region please contact:

MDOT University Region Office
4701 W. Michigan Avenue
Jackson, MI 49201
Phone: 517-765-3401

To order additional maps, please visit the Michigan Department of Transportation website at:
www.michigan.gov/mdot-biking

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

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